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12-21-01
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

Inventor: **Darrell Meyer**

Serial No: **PCT/US00/02837**

Filed: **February 3, 2000**

For: **Weight Bearing Systems and
Methods Relating to Same**

Examiner: **not yet determined**

Art Unit: **not yet determined**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-28.

29. (Added) A weight bearing element comprising:
a substantially flat web having a plurality of spaced stabilizing members; and
at least one chord defining a perimeter having a polygonal cross-sectional shape with at
least 5 mutually non-coplanar sides, at least two of which are substantially
parallel to the web, the chord being connected to the web at least one vertex of an
angle of the chord.

30. (Added) The weight bearing element of claim 29 wherein the stabilizing members are
formed from punched out openings.